

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 04176 271940Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W
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P R 271734Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 486
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 4176

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SP, PO
SUBJECT: EANES VISIT ENDS

REF: (A) MADRID 4032 (B) MADRID 4080

1. PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT EANES COMPLETED HIS VISIT TO SPAIN
MAY 26. AS REFLECTED IN THE MADRID PRESS, IT PROVED A
CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC RELATIONS SUCCESS.

2. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE PORTUGUESE EMBASSY, SHORTLY
BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE, EANES SAID ALL THE RIGHT THINGS ABOUT
DEMOCRACY AND PORTUGUESE-SPANISH FRIENDSHIP. IN RESPOND-
ING TO REPORTERS QUESTIONS, HE:

-- DESCRIBED THE IBERIAN PACT AS TOTALLY SUPERSCEDED,
SUGGESTING IT WOULD NOT BE RE-NEGOTIATED BUT HE HOPED
THAT A MORE GENERAL AGREEMENT, TO INCLUDE VARIOUS AGREE-
MENTS ALREADY EXISTING, MIGHT BE POSSIBLE IN THE FUTURE.

--TERMED "VERY POSITIVE" THE HIGH LEVEL PORTUGUESE-
SPANISH/MILITARY CONTACTS UNDERTAKEN AS PART OF THE
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VISIT. HE EMPHASIZED THE COMMON VIEW OF BOTH ARMIES
REGARDING THE MISSION OF THE ARMED FORCES, AMONG WHICH
HE SINGLED OUT THE OBJECTIVE OF GUARANTEEING HUMAN
RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM.

-- EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE SPANISH GENERAL
STAFF COULD SERVE AS A MODEL FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION

OF THE PORTUGUESE GENERAL STAFF, AND THAT FURTHER
(UNSPECIFIED) COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE WOULD BE EXTEN-
SIVE, AFTER THE EVENTUAL SIGNING OF A GENERAL ACCORD.

-- DECLARED THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF SPANISH ENTRY TO NATO
WAS NOT TREATED AS A SPECIFIC SUBJECT, AND SAID HE DID
NOT KNOW IF SPAIN WAS INTERESTED IN JOINING NATO.

(COMMENT: WE BELIEVE EANES'S CAREFUL PHRASING REFLECTS
AWARENESS OF SPANISH ELECTION SENSITIVITIES).

--AFFIRMED THAT, WITHOUT TALKING ABOUT FORMING
AN "IBERIAN BLOCK", SPAIN AND PORTUGAL COULD MAKE THEIR
JOINT WEIGHT FELT.

-- DENIED (UNCONVINCINGLY) THAT THERE WAS ANY
ORGANIZED ARAB BOYCOTT OF THE PORTUGUESE EMBASSY RECEPTION, NOTING THAT NO ONE POINTED OUT THE ABSENCE OF SOME
NON-ARAB AMBASSADORS AND THAT THE RESIDENT ARAB AMBASSADORS HAD SEEN HIM OFF IN LISBON. STABLER

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Message Attributes

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